

In the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An overhead area access staircase stowage system comprising:
 - at least one servicing unit comprising;
 - at least one stowage unit; and
 - a staircase proximate to said at least one stowage unit and having a stowed state and a deployed state, said staircase comprising:
 - a plurality of stair elements; and
 - a state actuating system transitioning said stair elements between said stowed state and said deployed state;
- said at least one stowage unit and said staircase configured for utilization on a single deck.
2. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 1 wherein said servicing unit comprises:
 - a first portion comprising;
 - a first stowage unit; and
 - said staircase; and

a second portion comprising a second stowage unit.
3. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 2 wherein said first portion comprises a platform member corresponding with a staging area.
4. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 3 wherein said platform member is a stair element of said staircase.

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5. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 2 wherein said second portion comprises a platform member corresponding with a staging area.

6. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 1 wherein said staircase comprises at least one stowage module.

7. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 1 further comprising at least one divider separating stowage units of said at least one stowage unit.

8. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 7 wherein said at least one divider separates said staircase and said at least one stowage unit.

9. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 1 further comprising a plurality of cart bumpers coupled to said at least one divider.

10. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 1 further comprising a plurality of cart bumpers coupled to said at least one stowage unit and guiding stowage of at least one service cart.

11. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 1 wherein said at least one stowage module resides between stair elements of said plurality of stair elements.

12. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 1 wherein said staircase comprises at least one access panel coupled to said plurality of stair elements and allowing access to said at least one stowage module.

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13. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 1 wherein said state actuating system comprises:

a plurality of rollers;

a U-shaped stair support member transitioning between states on said plurality of rollers;

a potential energy device coupled to said U-shaped stair support member and assisting transition of said staircase between said stowed state and said deployed state.

14. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 13 wherein said rollers guide transition of and support said staircase.

15. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 13 further comprising at least one service cart retainer coupled to said U-shaped stair support member.

16. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 1 further comprising at least one service cart retainer coupled to said staircase.

17. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 1 further comprising at least one release mechanism allowing actuation of said staircase.

18. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 1 wherein said state actuating system comprises a deployment handle.

19. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 1 wherein said state actuating system comprises a motor.

20. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 1 wherein said plurality of stair elements have a plurality of shapes.

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21. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 1 wherein said staircase further comprises at least one staging element.

22. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 1 wherein said staircase is deployable from at least one of a ceiling and a floor.

23. (Currently Amended) A staircase stowage system as in claim 1 wherein said staircase has a stowed state substantially above a service cart level and a deployed state substantially at said service cart level.

24. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 1 wherein said at least one servicing unit is approximately one or more service carts deep.

25. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 1 wherein said staircase is approximately one or more service carts deep.

26. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 1 wherein said at least one servicing unit comprises:

at least one platform member; and
at least one worktable.

27. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 1 wherein said plurality of stair elements comprises:

parallel step elements; and
angled step elements.

28. (Currently Amended) An aircraft comprising:
a galley comprising;
at least one stowage unit; and

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a staircase proximate to said at least one stowage unit and having a stowed state and a deployed state, said staircase comprising:
a plurality of stair elements; and
a state actuating system transitioning said stair elements between said stowed state and said deployed state;
said staircase vertically and non-rotatably actuated between states.

29. (Currently Amended) An aircraft as in claim [[7]]28 wherein said at least one stowage unit comprises at least one service cart stowage unit.

30. (Currently Amended) An overhead area access staircase stowage system comprising:

at least one service cart stowage unit;
at least one stowage module; and
a staircase proximate to said at least one service cart stowage unit, coupled to said at least one stowage module, and having a stowed state and a deployed state, said staircase comprising:

a plurality of stair elements; and
a state actuating system transitioning said stair elements between said stowed state and said deployed state;
wherein at least one of said stair elements corresponds with a staging area platform.

31. (Original) A staircase stowage system as in claim 30 wherein said staircase is deployable within said at least one stowage unit and comprises said at least one stowage module.

32. (Original) A method of accessing an overhead area and stowing objects within a stowage unit of an aircraft comprising:

accessing a staircase within a stowage unit;
releasing said staircase;
deploying said staircase within said stowage unit comprising;
releasing a plurality of stair elements; and
supporting said plurality of stair elements;
ascending said plurality of stair elements;
interacting with the overhead area; and
stowing said staircase.

33. (Original) A method as in claim 32 further comprising stowing objects within said staircase.

34. (Original) A method as in claim 32 further comprising retaining service carts within said stowage unit.

35. (Original) A method as in claim 34 wherein retaining service carts comprises the rotation of retainers coupled to at least one of a staircase base and a staging area platform member.

36. (Original) A method as in claim 32 further comprising stowing at least one service cart below at least one of a worktable and a platform member before deploying said staircase.

37. (Original) An aircraft comprising:
an aircraft structure having at least one overhead area; and
a staircase system comprising;
at least one stowage module; and
a staircase having a stowed state and a deployed state within a stowage unit, said staircase comprising;
a plurality of stair elements; and

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a state actuating system transitioning said stair elements between said stowed state and said deployed state; said staircase when in said deployed state providing access to the overhead area.

38. (Original) An aircraft as in claim 37 wherein said at least one stowage module reside between stair elements of said plurality of stair elements.
39. (Original) An aircraft as in claim 37 wherein said staircase system further comprises a service cart stowage unit.
40. (Original) A system as in claim 37 wherein said overhead area has a multiple service cart depth.